According to the University Grants Commission, the following institutions 'deemed-to-be-universities' have approved off-shore campuses:-

Sl. No.	Name of Institutions 'Deemed-to-be University'	Country
1.	Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, Rajasthan	United Arab Emirates
2.	Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Mesra, Ranchi	Oman, Bahrain
3.	Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal	Malaysia, United Arab Emirates and Oman.
4.	Vinayaka Mission's Research Foundation, Salem, Tamil Nadu	Thailand
5.	Sri Ramachandra Medical College and Research Institute, Chennai	Mauritius

(c) and (d) Public Universities and institutions may set up campuses abroad, if so permitted under the relevant State Act or Memorandum of Association, under which a university or institution is established. According to the existing provisions, a Central University is not allowed to open off-shore campus(es).

Revisiting educational system in schools

1779. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to revisit the educational system in schools; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) and (b) A 'Round Table on School Education' has been constituted to advise and make recommendations on improving the school education system in the country and to suggest means of implementation thereof. Discussions in the Round Table are an on-going process for interactions on school education. So far three meetings of the Round Table have been held.

Grants to universities for research in science

†1780. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the grants given to universities for research in science during the last three years and grants proposed for the next five years, year-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the steps being taken to promote research in the field of science?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) According to the information provided by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the universities have been provided a sum of Rs.165.88 crore and Rs.143.57 crore in the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively for research in science. An allocation of Rs.123 crore has been made by UGC for the current financial year *i.e.* 2009-10 of which Rs.66.63 crore has been released till 30.11.2009.

An amount of Rs.1200 crore has been allocated in the Eleventh Five Year Plan for strengthening scientific research in institution of higher learning.

(b) Looking at the declining quality and quantum of scientific research in universities, a Task Force was constituted by the Central Government for strengthening basic scientific Research in universities. In its Report, the Task Force has, *inter alia*, recommended creation of 1000 positions of research Scientists at various levels, five fold increase in the number of Ph.Ds within a span of ten years with proper standards, promotion of formal linkage between the Universities and national level institutions including the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) laboratories through joint research projects and training, inbuilt component of research in post-graduate programmes pertaining to science and Technology, upgradation of infrastructural facilities in universities to promote quality scientific research, and, creation of networking centers in Basic Sciences in leading Departments of Universities to promote collaborative research. The Task Force has been converted into an Empowered Committee for monitoring the implementation of its recommendations.

UGC has granted 1800 Junior Research Fellowships to the science departments recognized as Centre of Advanced Study/Department of Special Assistance/Department of Research Science in universities; launched the "Dr. D.S. Kothari Post-doctoral Fellowships", award 500 Post-Doctoral Fellowships in all areas of sciences and provided and infrastructure strengthening grant of Rs.5 lakhs to each of the 700 science departments of 97 colleges with potential for excellence.

Target of employment by KVIC

1781. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Khadi and Village Industries Commission has set a target of employment 1.5 crore persons during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether the rural youths, artisans, weavers, etc., are fully employed or work is given to them on casual basis; and